(c) if so, what are the details of the same; and

(d) whether Government have agreed to this plan?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FICCI) has prepared a paper titled "Liquidity Crunch--Short and Long Term Solutions of Financing a Rapidly Growing Indian Economy". The paper had argued that there has been a major squeeze in the supply of credit because of the restricted money supply. It has attributed that the foreign exchange management intervention resulted in contraction of money supply.

Some of the suggestions made by FICCI for enhancing credit flows are: (i) Reduction in the Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) to 25 per cent and Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) to 10 per cent; (ii) Removal of the limit (5 per cent) on bank's investments in the debt instruments of the private corporate sector and (iii) removal of stipulations relating to the lock-in period for funds invested in Money Market Mutual Funds (MMMFs). The FICCI have also argued that there has been a decleration in non-food credit.

RBI has further reported that it has brought down SLR from a high of 38.5 per cent in April, 1992 to 27.5 per cent in July, 1991. In view of the lower stipulations on incremental domestic net demand and time liabilities and zero SLR on certain specific external liabilities, the SLR would continue to decline. The effective CRR for the banking system has been brought down from 15.7 per cent in March, 1995 to around 11.5 per cent in July, 1996.

As reported by RBI, the growth in Non-food credit of scheduled commercial banks (between March 17, 1995 and march 29, 1996) was high at Rs. 54,684 crore as compared with Rs. 45,775 crore (between March 18, 1994 and March 31, 1995). The contraction in Liquidity due to intervention in the foreign exchange market was only in the initial stages. Subsequently, there has been a net injection of liquidity. Thus the overall impact of foreign exchange market intervention from the point of view of domestic liquidity was neutral. In the period October, 1995-July 1996 the Reserve Bank has gradually reduced the cash reserve ratio, thereby augmenting the resources of banks.

RBI has stated that banks are required to ensure that the various productive sectors of the economy are supported. At the same time, with a view to enabling banks to deploy their surplus funds more remuneratively, banks have been allowed to invest 5 per cent of their incremental deposits of the previous year in shares, debentures/bonds of the corporate bodies including devolepments arising out of underwritting obligations. For 1996-97, this would amount to more than Rs. 2,200 crore which is a substantial amount.

While it is considered necessary that some minimum lock-in period for funds invested in MMMFs is required, the minimum period has been reduced from 46 days to 30 days in order to make this scheme more attractive to investors when the prescribed minimum maturity for term deposits with scheduled commercial banks was lowered from 46 days to 30 days effectively July 2, 1996.

मध्य प्रदेश राज्य सहकारी बैंक द्वारा नाबार्ड से लाइसेंस मांगा जाना

2974. **श्री राघवजी:** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मध्य प्रदेश राज्य सहकारी बैंक ने विदेशी मुद्रा विनिमय का कार्य करने हेतु नाबार्ड से लाइसेंस की मांग की है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो यह मांग कब की गई और इस पर सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की गई है; और

(ग) यदि कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की गई है तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री पी॰ चिदम्बरम): (क) से (ग) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और यथा उपलब्ध सूचना सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

बैंक धोखाधड़ी को रोकने के लिए कर्मचारियों को अधिकार दिया जाना

2975. **श्री नागमणि:**

श्री ईश दत्त यादव:

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) बैंक धोखाधड़ी को रोकने के लिए किन-किन